

October 4, 2017

Hon. Greg Walden  
Chairman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Energy & Commerce  
Rayburn House Office Building 2125  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Allocating TV White Spaces Channels for High-Speed Wireless Broadband  
GN Docket No. 12-268; ET Docket No. 14-165; MB Docket No. 15-146.**

Dear Chairman Walden,

We are fellow Oregonians working in companies whose sole goal is to build innovative solutions that improve Americans' lives and make their work more efficient. As technologies have evolved to leverage the wonders of the internet, our innovations have also improved to allow people to work, consult their doctors, or continue their education from the comfort of their home.

Unfortunately, the people and communities that would benefit most from our remote solutions are unable to access them. Our country is struggling with a serious digital divide, and fast internet connections are still out of reach for many rural communities. Wired internet and licensed wireless carriers have been unable to service these areas because it is considered cost-prohibitive to establish additional cables or 4G infrastructure in areas with only a few paying customers.

The good news is that recent advances in wireless technology support connectivity between television channels, in unused portions called "television white spaces" (TVWS). For the sake of rural Oregonians who lack access to broadband, we shouldn't allow this valuable resource to go to waste. According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the connectivity problem in Oregon is acute: across Malheur, Harney, and Baker Counties, for example, rural broadband access ranges from 0 to 25 percent. TVWS would bring connectivity to rural communities like these that need them, and provide access to the remote, efficient mobile app solutions our country's app developers provide, all without interfering with local broadcast channels. Significantly, providing TVWS-enabled broadband to difficult-to-serve communities on an unlicensed basis would help bridge the digital divide without putting undue pressure on the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) Connect America Fund. This makes TVWS a fiscally and logistically attractive piece of the puzzle as you and your colleagues consider avenues to encourage rural broadband deployment.

We deeply care about our customers in all corners of our country, and we believe using TV white spaces to provide rural communities with fast internet and broadband connectivity would be a victory for all. We urge you to support the FCC's proposal to reserve a TVWS channel in the ultra high frequency (UHF) band below channel 37, in addition to the channel 37 and duplex gap white spaces. We are hopeful to see the incredible opportunities that will arise from a few white spaces.

Thank you for your time and effort,

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Cc: Chairman Ajit Pai, Federal Communications Commission  
Commissioner Mike O'Rielly, Federal Communications Commission  
Commissioner Brendan Carr, Federal Communications Commission  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn, Federal Communications Commission  
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel, Federal Communications Commission